CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SHALLOW SALINE HABITAT AT THE SALTON SEA

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OBJECTIVES

- CONSTRUCT A 4-CELLED WETLAND USING BLENDED WATER FROM THE SALTON SEA AND ALAMO RIVER
- EVALUATE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES FOR LEVEE AND ISLAND BUILDING
- EVALUATE DURABILITY OF LEVEES AND ISLANDS CONSTRUCTED WITH LOCAL SEDIMENT/SOILS
- EVALUATE WATER, SEDIMENTS, AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE RESPONSE TO BLENDED WATER IN SHALLOW HABITAT
- EVALUATE BIRD USE, INCLUDING NUMERICAL ABUNDANCE, SPECIES DIVERSITY, NESTING AND RECRUITMENT

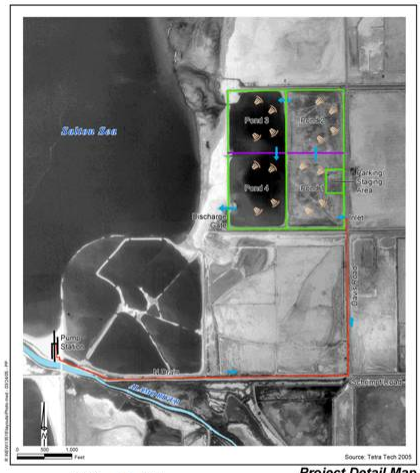
EVALUATE WATER, SEDIMENTS, AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE RESPONSE TO BLENDED WATER IN SHALLOW HABITAT

- NUTRIENTS
- CONTAMINANTS
- PESTICIDES
- SALINITY

EVALUATE BIRD USE, INCLUDING NUMERICAL ABUNDANCE, SPECIES DIVERSITY, NESTING AND RECRUITMENT

- COMPARE TO SAN DIEGO SALT PONDS
- COMPARE TO FRESHWATER SITES NEARBY
- EVALUATE SPECIES COLONIZATION OF SITE
- EVALUATE NEST FATE
- EVALUATE POST-HATCH SURVIVAL
- EGG ANALYSIS FOR CONTAMINANTS AND PESTICIDES

SITE SELECTION AND DEVELOPMENT



Project Detail Map
Shallow Habitat Project

Southeastern California

Figure 1-2

CONSTRUCTION (JANUARY 2006)

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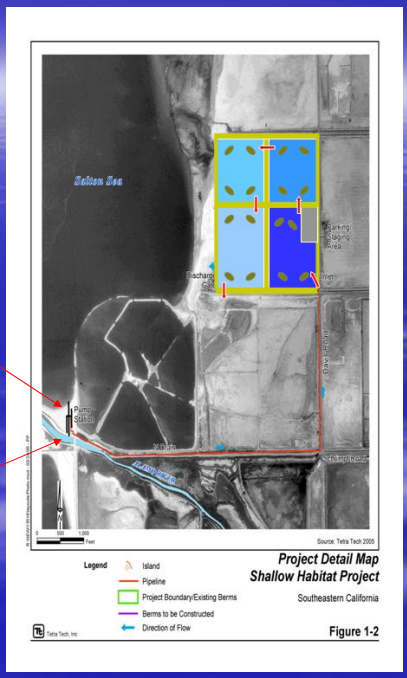
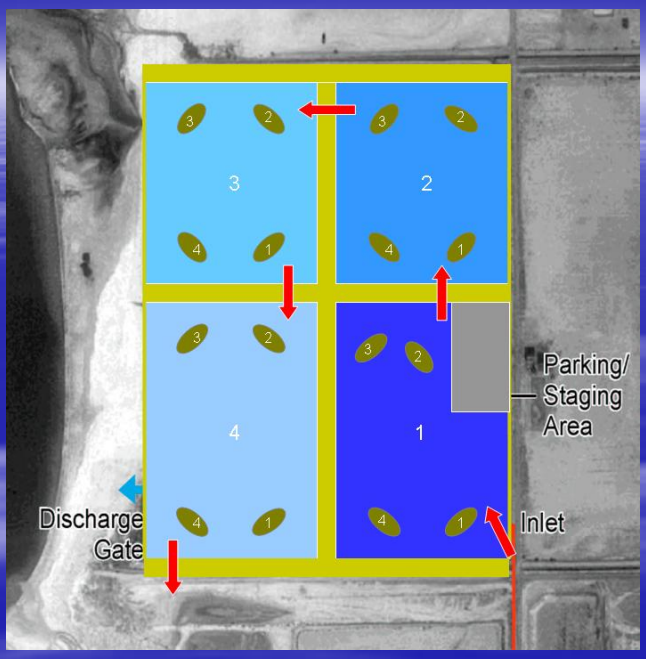

Salton Sea
Parking/ Staging Area
Discharge Gate
Inlet
Pump Station
Legend
Island
Pipeline
Project Boundary/Existing Berms
Berms to be Constructed
Direction of Flow
Project Detail Map
Shallow Habitat Project
Southeastern California
Figure 1-2

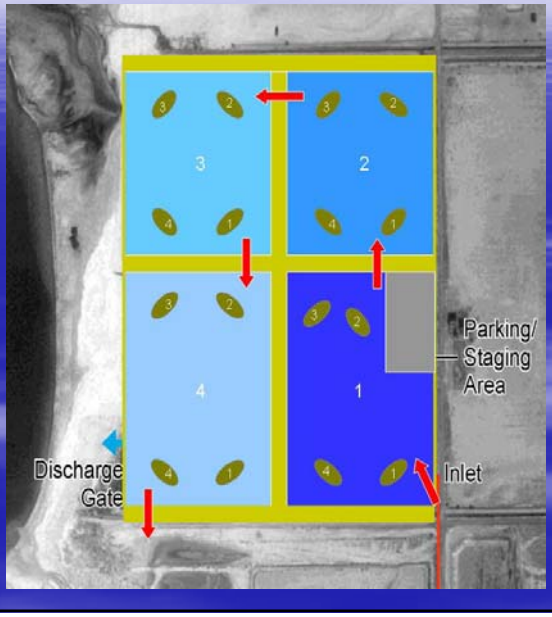

3
2
4
1
Parking/
Staging
Area
Discharge
Gate
Inlet

WATER TO CELL 1 BEGAN LAST WEEK IN APRIL 2006

NEEDED TO ESTABLISH SALNITY GRADIENT OF ROUGHLY 20 PPT IN CELL 1 AND 60 PPT IN CELL 4

THIS SALINITY REGIME REQUIRES THAT CELLS 1 AND 2 ARE DEEP FLOODED INITIALLY WITH 2/3 SALTON SEA WATER, THEN MOVING WATER INTO 3 AND 4.

LOWER SALINITY IN CELL 1 AND 2 IS THEN ACHIEVED BY USING MOSTLY RIVER WATER



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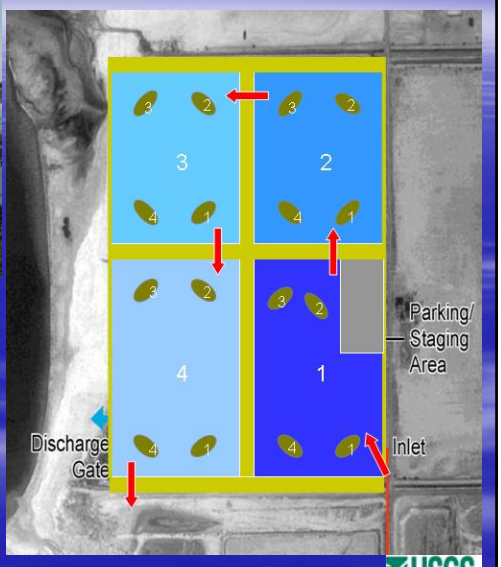
WATER DELIVERY TO CELL 1 4/26/06



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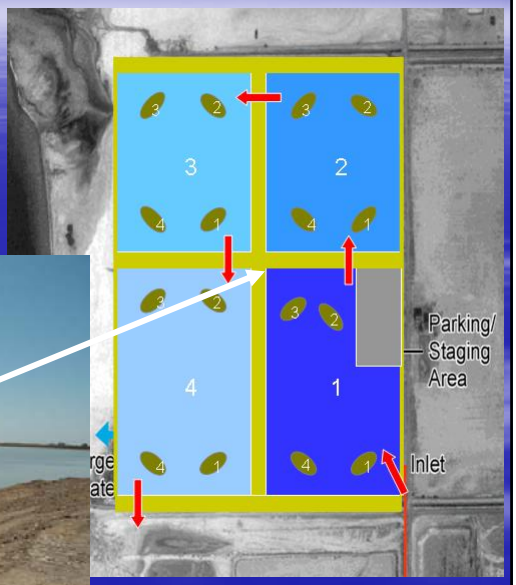
CELL 1 FLOODING 5/11/06



WATER DELIVERY TO CELL 1 4/26/06

FIRST NEST BLACK-NECKED STILT
5/03/06 CELL 1 ISLAND 3